(14) & (15) Vide answer to question No. 425.

Tramway Department.

625. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) why the Government has allowed the Tramway Engineer to put on Churuli sleepers this year instead of other species as was previously done; if this variety is the cheaper one, why did the Government not adopt this before;

(2) is sawing beinn done in the Tramway workshop now-a-days; if not, why the same is stopped now;

(3) the quantity of different species of timber purchased by the Tramway Department during each of the last three years, (1101, 1102 and 1103) the value paid, other charges incurred by the Department and the net gain realised;

(4) has the Tramway Department sold in log form timber of any species to any purchaser after getting the logs on seigniorage from the Forest Department in 1103; if so, why the Forest Department itself could not do so, and realise the full benefit of the sales;

(5) (a) was the sale of timber on seigniorage to the Tramway Department provided for in the budget of 1102 and 1103; (b) the quantity of timber in each species sold to the Tramway Department during these years and the seigniorage realised; (c) if these are not provided for in the budget, has the sanction of the Government been obtained for the same?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(1) With the minimum amount the maximum number of sleepers was procured to maintain the line throughout. This is being done under the existing state of affairs and this will have to continue till the stability of the Department is finally decided. This was not preferred before as the question of abolition was not taken up then.

(2) No. Owing to paucity of orders.

(3) A statement giving the information for 1101 is placed on the Council Table. The information for 1102 and 1103 is not ready.

(4) No.

(5) (a). No.

(b) A statement is placed on the Council Table.

(c) Government sanction was not obtained.

626. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether any sawing has been done in the Tramway workshop now-a-days; if not, why the same is stopped now;

(2) the quantity of different species of timber purchased by the Tramway Department for the last three years, the value

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